

3483. SAPINDUS MARGINATUS.**Soap-berry.**

From Palermo, Sicily. Donated by Professor Borzi, director of the Botanic Garden of Palermo, through Mr. W. T. Swingle, May, 1899.

It is a native of the low lands of Florida, where it forms a medium-sized tree, bearing bunches of yellow fruit which are about one-half inch in diameter. It may also prove to be a source of saponin, like No. 3482. Distributed.

3484. ARBUTUS ANDRACHINE.

From Palermo, Sicily. Donated by Professor Borzi, director of the Botanic Garden of Palermo, through Mr. W. T. Swingle, May, 1899.

"An ornamental from the eastern Mediterranean region, related to the strawberry tree, *Arbutus unedo* (No. 2657, inventory No. 5). It is a native of Greece and Asia Minor, is taller than the strawberry tree, attaining a height of from 20 to 30 feet, and has larger fruits, borne singly. This species, as well as the *Arbutus canariensis* (see No. 815, inventory No. 1, and No. 3485), should be hybridized with the common strawberry tree in the hope of originating a new fruit. No fruit is more beautiful than that of the strawberry tree, but unfortunately the flavor is rather insipid. This species is hardly in England if protected when young by being grown in pots until 2 or 3 feet high. There are several native species of *Arbutus* in the southwestern United States, where most of them are called Madroña. Some of these bear edible fruits and should also be utilized by plant breeders." (Swingle.)

3485. ARBUTUS CANARIENSIS.**Madroño.**

From Palermo, Sicily. Donated by Professor Borzi, director of the Botanic Garden of Palermo, through Mr. W. T. Swingle, May, 1899.

"A beautiful evergreen tree attaining a height of 40 feet. It is, as the name indicates, a native of the Canary Islands. It has pretty, rose-colored flowers in racemes, followed by orange-colored fruits about 1 inch in diameter, which are very beautiful as seen against the shining green foliage. The fruits are sweeter and more pulpy than those of the strawberry tree, and are considered very good by the natives in spite of their rather numerous seeds. The bark is smooth and very thin, the wood rose-colored and useful in cabinet-making. This, as well as the preceding number, should be used by plant breeders in hybridizing with the strawberry tree." (Swingle.)

3486. DURANTA BRACHYPODA.

From Palermo, Sicily. Donated by Professor Borzi, director of the Botanic Garden of Palermo, through Mr. W. T. Swingle, May, 1899.

"This small tree is a species described from the Botanic Garden of Palermo, although doubtless native in South or Central America, as are the other species of the genus. This as well as the common *Duranta plumieri* (No. 3487) is a handsome ornamental, bearing a profusion of blue or violet flowers in racemes at the end of the branches. These two are the most handsome species grown in the Botanic Garden of Palermo." (Swingle.) Distributed.

3487. DURANTA PLUMIERI.

From Palermo, Sicily. Donated by Professor Borzi, director of the Botanic Garden of Palermo, through Mr. W. T. Swingle, May, 1899.

Labeled *D. microphylla*, a name given as synonymous with *D. plumieri* in the Kew Index. This spiny Mexican shrub is the best-known species of the genus. It bears abundant violet flowers in racemes at the ends of the branches, and, later, numerous yellow fruits, which are rather ornamental. It is commonly grown in Florida. Distributed.

3488. DURANTA TURBINATA.

From Palermo, Sicily. Donated by Professor Borzi, director of the Botanic Garden of Palermo, through Mr. W. T. Swingle, May, 1899.

This species has purplish or violet flowers and is not so handsome as Nos. 3486 and 3487. It is not known where this species is native. Distributed.